Malprabha Project

150. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for diversion of water from west flowing Mahadayi river to Malprabha project;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that despite several requests from the Government of Karnataka, clearance to this proposal has been kept in abeyance; and

(c) if so, by when the Master Plan would be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government of Karnataka in April, 2002 requested for clearance of proposal from inter-State angle for diversion of 7.56 TMC of water from Madei basin to Malprabha basin through implementation of Kalsa and Bandurinalla schemes to meet the drinking water needs of Hubli/Dharwad cities. The Ministry of Water Resources gave an 'in-principle' clearance to the proposal to meet the drinking water need of Hubli/Dharwad from water availability angle on 30th April, 2002. The Government of Goa in July, 2002 took strong exception to the grant of this clearnace by the Ministry and requested for setting up of an Inter-State Water Disputes Tribunal under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 for resolution of the dispute. In view of this, the 'in-principle' clearance granted by the Ministry was placed 'in abeyance' in September, 2002 with a view to resolve the matter by an agreement between the two States, failing which by an award of the Tribunal. The two States have so far not concluded any agreement on the sharing of Madei Water.

Harnessing of surplus water in west flowing rivers

151. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the surplus water in the west flowing rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Gvernment have any proposal for harnessing such surplus water for use in the neighbouring States; and

(d) whether Government would formulate a time-bound scheme for optimum utilization of the surface water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV) : (a) to (d)